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DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

15 June 1976

Dear Win:

Many thanks for your letter of 26 May inviting me to participate in the AUSA Panel on "The US/USSR Military Balance: How Tall Are the Russians?" in October. At that time I am committed to speaking engagements on the West Coast and Hawaii. I greatly regret that I cannot participate as I would very much have liked to be there.

Wishing you every success with the AUSA Annual Meeting and with every good wish to you and yours,

Faithfully,

Vernon A. Walters  
Lieutenant General, USA

STATINTL

Major General Winant Sidle, USA-Ret.  
Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President  
Association of the United States Army  
1529 Eighteenth Street, N.W.

Washington, D. C. 20036

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ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

1529 EIGHTEENTH STREET, NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. [unclear]  
Committed to Speeches  
on West Coast of Hawaii  
Greatly respect  
26 May 1976  
Can I travel 1st class  
have tried to be there

Dear Dick:

This year's AUSA Annual Meeting will be held from 11 thru 13 October. As usual, we are attempting to put together a program for the meeting which will be both interesting and professionally rewarding for the 5-6,000 members who usually attend this function.

One of the hottest and most important subjects under discussion in DOD, the Congress and the media this year is just where the U.S. stands militarily in comparison to the USSR. Consequently, it occurred to us that a panel discussion on this subject would be professionally helpful to those attending the meeting.

We are presently planning to call the panel, "The US/USSR Military Balance: How Tall are the Russians?" Our hope is to put together a panel composed of individuals with somewhat different viewpoints on the subject or who approach the subject from varying points of reference, i.e. technology, costs, strengths etc.

We would like to have you, Mal Currie, Professor Brzezinski, John Collins, who was the principal author of the Library of Congress study, "United States/Soviet Military Balance"; and Representative Les Aspin.

We believe that such a panel discussion would be of great professional interest to those attending the meeting, especially the active and reserve component leaders of the Army who normally attend.

We therefore would like to invite you to participate in this panel. As to timing, we are presently planning to hold the panel on the afternoon of Monday, 11 October. We certainly hope you will agree to be one of our panelists.

For your information, the other major parts of the program will include a presentation by General Al Haig on NATO and several other panels which will discuss such areas as Army Reserve Component readiness, Army personnel management, the prospects of maintaining a quality volunteer Army, and the principal recommendations of the Defense Manpower Commission and the DOD Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation Board.

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Looking forward to hearing from you (favorably we hope) and with best wishes.

Sincerely,

*Si*

WINANT SIDLE  
Major General, USA-Ret.  
Special Assistant to the  
Executive Vice President

LTG Vernon A. Walters  
Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

WS/sec